

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 /063 W
-----290851Z 020677 /11

O 290830Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5880
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL CAPE TOWN 0458

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, US, SF, CA, UK, GW, FR
SUBJ: CONSULTATION WITH COLLEAGUES ON FIVE-POWER
APPROACH ON NAMIBIA

REF: STATE 064936; WISNER-BOWDLER TELECON 3/28

1. ON AFTERNOON OF MARCH 25 I ASKED UK, FRENCH, FRG
AND CANADIAN COLLEAGUES TO JOIN ME TO COMPARE NOTES ON
DEVELOPMENTS IN NEW YORK CONCERNING THE JOINT DEMARCHE
ON NAMIBIA AS SUGGESTED REFTLE. I TOLD THEM AT THE OUTSET
THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS NOT RPT NOT TO NEGOTIATE
BUT TO SEE THAT WE WERE AU COURANT OF THE STATUS OF
NEGOTIATIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF INSTRUCTIONS WE MIGHT
RECEIVE.

2. I FOUND THAT ALL OF THEM WERE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF
THE PROGRESS OF THE TALKS BY THEIR RESPECTIVE UN MISSIONS
AND FOREIGN OFFICES. ALL HAD COPIES OF THE PROPOSED TEXT
EXCEPT FOR THE CANADIAN AMENDMENTS WHICH I EXPLAINED AND
WHICH THEY REGARDED AS IMPROVEMENTS.

3. GERMAN AND BRITISH AMBASSADORS RAISED QUESTION ABOUT
HOW THE DEMARCHE WAS TO BE MADE, INDICATING THAT THEY HAD
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STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS THAT IT BE DONE
BY AMBASSADORS HERE SO AS NOT TO OVER-DRAMATIZE THE APPROACH.
THEY THOUGHT CHANCES OF GETTING A MORE FAVORABLE RESPONSE
WOULD BE ENHANCED IF VORSTER IS PERCEIVED AS NOT HAVING
TO BOW TO FOREIGN PRESSURE. CANADIAN AGREED WITH
THIS VIEW AND THE FRENCHMAN NODDED ASSENT. I TOLD THEM
THAT PREFERENCE OF MY GOVERNMENT WAS TO USE THE AMBASSADOR

HERE BUT ISSUE WOULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER IN NEW YORK
AND DECIDED IN OUR RESPECTIVE CAPITALS.

4. BRITISH AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT IF DEMARCHE WERE TO BE
MADE THIS WEEK, THERE WOULD BE NO FOREIGN MINISTER
AVAILABLE SINCE MULLER HAS ALREADY LEFT TOWN AND BOTHA
WILL NOT BE SWORN IN UNTIL APRIL 1. I NOTED THAT DEMARCHE
COULD BE MADE TO VORSTER HIMSELF BUT IN ANY EVENT THIS
POINT WOULD ALSO BE TAKEN UP IN NEW YORK.

5. IN CONCLUSION I ASKED MY COLLEAGUES ABOUT THEIR
PERSONAL PLANS FOR THE NEXT WEEK IN THE EVENT WE RECEIVED
INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE THE DEMARCHE ON SHORT ORDER. ALL
INDICATED THAT THEY EXPECTED TO BE IN CAPE TOWN. THE
MEETING ADJOURNED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT WE WOULD
KEEP IN TOUCH AWAITING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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